To the reader.

HE, that generallie readeth the histories, not oneli of the old auncient Philosophers but also of al writers in these daies, shal easely perceiue and vnderstand, that the most hard and difficill thige of al other is, for any mortal man to wythstande the inuincible force of nature, who as we see dayly endeuoreth her selfe to the verye houre of death, to ouercome mans witte, reason and force. For although we be encouraged earnestlye, by our master and sauyoure Chryst, with the hope of perpetuall pleasures, and the perfyte beliefe of euerlastinge lyfe, to leaue these vayne, folyshe and most vncerteine desiers or delectacions of thys most wretched world, and boldely, without feare, to passe through the ports of death, out of this vile,

If nature be of ſuch ſtrength, neuer thinke that Spaniardes can chāg their vile nature.

caducke, and moſt tranſytorye life: yet ye ſee, that nature is of ſuch a mighty power, in her moſte ouerthwart operacions, that al manlines, all force, ſtrength, power, riches, honor, wiſdome, and knowledge not withſtanding, ſhe compelleth all mē generallye to feare death, to reſiſte death and to flye from that porte, through the whiche we ſhould paſſe to euerlaſting life, and eternall felicite. I meane that like as nature forceably compelleth vs, contrarye to all reaſon, to reſiſte death, for the vtter moſte of oure power, when by no meanes we can eſcape or flie from it: Euen ſo nature cōpelleth me, being an Engliſhe mā, for the natural loue which I beare towardes my countrye, to take vpon me contrary to al wiſedome, if I would ſeke mine own priuate ſafetye, to declare the nature of ſpaniardes, & diſcouer their moſt vile, and deteſtable treaſons, which by no meanes I can deuiſe to expres plainly,

plaily, or to bryng to any perfect end and good order, becauſe their moſte curſed condicions be ſo vncerteyne and notable. But although I can not expreſſe my maters, either wittelye, eloquently or learnedlye, yet I ſhall deſier thee, moſte gētile reader: al rethoricall writinge, and eloquent ſtile layde a parte, to haue an earneſt reſpecte to the perfecte grounde of the matter: whiche is either the preſeruacion, or deſtruction of the whole realme. The preſeruaciō of the land, if all Engliſhe men wil loue charitably, faithfully, truly, and luſtly together, and euery one from the hygheſt degree, to the loweſte, ſeke, as we ar moſt bounden, ſtoutly, boldelye and iuſtly, to defende his natiue countri, and without feare manfully to wyth ſtande, and reſiſt the fallible force, of our enemyes. The deſtructiō of our moſt noble kingedome, if one part of our nobilite and commons doe reſiſt another, and treaterouſli receaue our enemyes, aſſiſt them, aide them,

In Antwerpe ther was at one tie aboue xvii M. pounde of Englishe tesones & grotes of good siluer, melted & newe stamped to mayntaie your enemies.

or maintain: them: if ye suffer them to carye youre treasure oute of the lande, as they haue done very mucke lately: if ye permit them to inhabite or plant themselues strongly within youre coastes, holdes, or hauen townes: if ye beleue falsse promyses: if ye wil be disceaued wyth greate gistes, or beggerly bribes: if any ambicion blinde your eies. And finally if there fall amongest Englishe men dissension, strife, treason, sedicion or rebellion: the whole realme shalbe destroyed, and all englyshe men brought to perpetuall bondage and slauery: yea the first, chefe, and principall workers of these mischeffes, how many so euer they be, shall be brought to the most shameful death as thou maiest plainly perceiue in reding this letter that folowethe. In the first parte of the whiche letter, thou shalt finde suche examples, as if thou diligentlye peruse and folowe, according to my exhortacion and doctrine;

trine, thou shalt finde out easely a million and moe miscreues touchynge the vile nature of Spaniardes, then I haue plainly expressed in writinge: In the seconde part I haue discouered suche treasons, as I founde written in their letters. And I declare theyr wordes, whereby thou mayest plainly perceaue, to what purpose al their flattering promises, craftye polices, great gifres and large bribes, be pretēted: and how it appeareth playnly, by their own wordes and letters, that they pretende none other thing but only to bryng our countrye vnder their subiectiō, & then to bring all our nobilitie to their vtter confusion and destruction. Thirdlye I haue showed the orders of the kīgs courte, the maner of Spaniardes lyuing, how they purpose to appointe vs a viceroye, and how vilie he shal vse the Quenes maiestye, and al the whole realme afterwardes. Laste of all I haue showed thee what vilany,

Folowe this cōsell.

shame and dishonor they haue reported by the Quenes highnes and her honorable Ladies, what honor Londōe hath wonne in punishing vice, and exhorted all men to kepe loue, quietnesse, peace, and tranquillite, amongest themselues, and when necessite compelleth them, to take ail w^t^ olly one perfect way, in defendīg their countrye, & withstanding their enemyes: whiche exhortacion if englisshe men will obserue, and kepe, putting their whole trust in oure Sauiour Christ, he will vndoubtedlye, defende them, that they may be sure to liue quietly in their coūtry, without feare of the malice or cruell tyrannye of all nacions. One thinge I haue thought necessary to admonish the in, good reder, because I am but yonge, and a seruyng man, continuallye brought vp in seruice, without all knowledge, or learnyng, and am at this present among Spaniardes, where I can haue the aduise of no ler

ned

ned man, as thou maiest perceiue by the vnsauery telling of my tale, and the rude stile of this my inordinate letter to place my worke in order, adorne my matter with apte wordes, or fine eloquent fraſes of rhetorike: that thou nother reproue my work, thoughe there be many barbarycke wordes, and foliſhe fraſes, ignorantlie placed, out of time or good order Nor thinke me parciall becauſe I ſpeake alwaies of Spaniardes vyces, without reciting any vertues: Nor yet be not offended wyth any foliſhe reaſons, which I according to my cõſcience haue made concernynge our religion. But rather thynke trulye, that the naturall loue, which I beare to my natyue country, conſyderyng all t eſe eminent miſcheſes, whyche be at hande, and the deteſtable treaſons, whiche at this preſent be working for your deſtruction, cõpelled me to ſende ouer this rude letter haſtely, without correcting or amẽdig

it,

and plainly, without dissimulacyon, to discouer such treasons, as I knew, and geue englyshmen warninge spedely, lest I should haue come to late, when the matter had been past remedy. I thought it not nedeful to write of their vertues, because they sette out all their vertue to the vttermost themselues, when they were laste in England, so that euery mā knoweth it perfectly: but to shewe their hidde vices and treasons, which few men did vnderstande. And for religion, I will not in suche posting spede take vpon me to teache ani doctrine, knowing mine own ignoraunce, though I haue shewed my rude reasons, but therin will submitte my selfe to the correccion of those, which be perfectly learned in scripture, confessing this worke not to bee made, to confirme any doctrine, most humbly beseching thee, although many men bee of diuerse and sundrye iudgementes, to iudge the best of this my rude letter

to

to pardon myne ignorauncye, & to applye my worke, and thy ſelfe alſo to the ſame good purpoſe that I doe ordaine it vnto, and to accept it gẽ tly, with as good a will, as I haue dy- rected it to thee. VVhereby thou maieſt encourage me, to take other matters in hand ehreafter, for the ho nor and glory of god, and the cõmõ vtilite of my natiue countrye. The Lorde leſus Chriſte lighten and ſtrengthen vs in all verite, and preſerue England from Spa- niſhe bondage and ſlaue- rye. Thy louinge frende Iohn Brade- ſorte.

For the defence of our na iue cou trye.

To the right

honorable lords & c. the erles of Arũ
dell, Darby, Shreuſebury & Pẽbrok,
their true and faythfull ſeruaunt wi-
heth, as to al other of our nobilite in
creaſe of grace in gods fauour, wyth
perfect honor, and the preſeruacyon
of their moſt honorable eſtates and
country. Thoughe ye reioyce not in
readyng my foolyſhe reaſons, yet
geue God thankes, that I haue
diſcouered ſuche deteſta-
ble treaſons.

Here haue been certain
peſtiferous bokes and
letters lately printed in
Englyſhe, vnder the
cloke of a feruẽt zeale,
or loue towardes our
country: againſt Spaniardes, by the
deueliſhe deuice of certayne here-
tykes,

sikes, thinking therby to grounde
the hartes of all people, according
the olde accustomed and most curse
polices of the deuill, many abomi
ble hersies, and moste detestable
rors, stinking before the face of go
and man.

Beware of them.

One of the whiche bokes hath c
to my handes, entitled a supplicacio
to the Quenes maiestie, wherby it
peareth perfectly, that the authors
the same bokes knew not perfect
the nature of Spaniards: but haue
ther writte it by report, then perf
practise. VVhich bokes because se
men dare vse them openlye, lest
youre lordesshippes, and orther of
Quenes most honorable counsell, s
vile stinking wedes should be ro
vp, and with the most folishe gat
rers cast out of the good corne, I
haue not ben redde of your hono
So that where the said bokes s
haue declared vnto your lordshi
the nature of Spaniardes, thei pro
nothing at al, nor shold thoug th

ame before your sight. But accor-
ding to their pretensed purpose, thei
haue vndoutedly infected many sim
ple persons. VVho, being desierous
to gather the pleasaũt swete flouers
of the gospell, doe lacke the shoes,
which Sainct Paule cõmaundeth vs,
to put on our fete, that we may, with
out daunger of pricking, passe freshly
throughe the sharpe thornes. I haue
therfore purposed, right honorable
lordes, to leaue the full answeringe
to the said heresies, because I perceue
the authors themselues lacke that
godly knowledge, which I desier to
obteine: And some what to declare
vnto you the nature of them, with
whom I am dailye conuersaunte, trus
ting your lordshipps will fauorably re
ciue my work, because I will declare
nothing by report or heare saye, but
even those thinges, whiche I know e
perfectly by experience. I will write
nothing to disturbe the trew & most
godly state of oure religion, which the
the Quenes maiestie most graciously
doth setteth oute at thys present, and

The doctors of the churche.

wherein god hath preserued me no
yet, to disturbe the quiete estate o
the common wealth: But in shewing
what is pretended to the contrarye
declare vnto you the way, if it pleas
you to folowe my counsell, how t
preserue youre lordeshipes, and th
whole realme, from most miserabl
bondage and captiuite. I purpose t
declare a part of the naturall dispos
cion of Spaniardes: certayne of thei
premeditate mischeues, and preten
sed treasons, not onely agaynst you
most honorable persons, but also
gaynst the whole realme: so farre
I haue heard, seene and proued, s
the space of two or. iii. yeres in the
companye. My frendes putte me
learne their language and compell
me to liue amongest them, becaus
myghte knowe perfectlye, whet
their nature were so vyle, as men
ported, or not. And I assure yourlo
shipes: and all my frendes, that the
leste reporte, that euer I heard En
lyshme

Not the halfe.

lishmen speake, by the worste of all Spaniardes, is nothinge to the vilenes which remaineth amongest the best of that nacion, except the kigs maiestie. Ye wil say the noble men be very ciuill persons. In very dede I haue not seen so muche vertue in all the reste, as in that moste noble Prince the duke of Medenazelye. A Prince, vndoubtedly, endewed with perfect humilite, trueth, loue, charite and all other princelike vertues.

The kig except in all euill.

Obiectiõs.

The duke of medenazelie.

There be many other noble menne, vndoubtedly very wise and politik, which can throughe their wisdome binde themselues for a time from their nature, and applye their condicions to the maners of those menne, with whom they would gladlye bee frended. VVhose mischeuouse maners a man shal neuer knowe, till he come vnder their subiectiõ. But thẽ shall ye perceiue perfectly their pufsed pride, with many mischesses beside, their prowling, and polig, their

Marke the nature of the nobilite & their polices.

These be the rotes of Spa. nature.

bribinge and ſhauing, their moſt deceitfull dealing, their braging and boſting, their flatteringe and fayninge, their abominable whore huntynge with moſt rufull ruling, their doings vniuſt, with inſaciate luſt, their ſtout ſtubbernnes, croked crabbednes and vnmeaſurable madnes in enui, pride and lecherie, which, thei ſaie, god loueth hartelie, vaine glorie, and hipocriſie with al other vilanie, of what kinde ſoeuer it be: ſuperſticion, deſolacion, extorcion, adulacion, diſſimulacion, exaltacion, ſuppreſſion, inuocacion, and all abominacion: with innumerable moe miſcheues, which I coulde plainlie declare, that no nacion in the world can ſuffer. Their maſking and mumbling, in the holi time of lent, maketh many wiues brente, the king being preſent nighte after nighte, as a Prince of moſte mighte, which hath power in his hande, that no man dare withſtande: yet if that were the greateſt euil, we might ſuf-

the worſt of all is when the kig doth maintaīe miſchief continually, and beſtoweth his power in wickednes.

fer

ſer it wel. For there is no mã liuing, but would ſuffer the kīg to haue wife ſiſter, doughter, maide and all, bothe great & ſmal, ſo many as he liſte, no man would him reſiſt. But the worſt of all the companie muſte haue my wife priuelie, when I am preſent bi: this is more vilanie, that one muſte kepe the dore, will not that greue you ſore, & dare not ſpeake for your life when another hath youre wife. Perhaps the king, yet that were a noble thing. Naie perchaũce ſõe other ſlaue or vile pockie knaue, this thīg in dede ſhal make your hartes blede, when youre wife beareth the marke of that nightes warke, whiche ſtill wil abide, vnder neth her ſide, and greue her ſore, halfe a yeare & more: ye perhaps with ſuch mocks you mai bot hcõe to pockes. For ſeme of thẽ be cleare, thoughe they make luſtie cheare, as Surgentes doe me tell, and ſõe I ſee right wel, whiche did me cõ pel ſore againſt mi wil, to take ſomuch

paine, as to make plaisters fine for the same thyng, which hath made me conning. But wherfore should I spēd my time, in showing so mani of their vile condicions, as I knowe moste perfectly. For me thinke I heare sōe noble man starte at these fewe principall pointes, saying: what a vyle knaue is this, that raileth so muche against the Quenes frendes. would to god that wer trewe: we knowe moste perfectly, they loue her treasure faithfully, and her crowne hartely. But if her grace worke prudently, she shall perceiue spedely, they loue her person fainedly. I haue not spoken the worst nor the most, lyke a rayler, but showed a small nomber of rype rotes, from the which spring a thousād moe mischeffes, for out of eueri rote spring. vii. braunches, and out of eueri braunche doe spring. vii. worse wormes or stinkinge serpentes of more mortall poison, then either the rotes or spitful braunches. As for example,

Noble mens knaues.

Nore

Marke how the spanishe fruite springth

ample, take their pompynge pryde, and ye shall proue their purpose once obteined, thei wil treade your heads in the dust, and compel you to liue at home porely, without bearing rule in the commen wealth. Thinke you, to liue at home in your country: no they knowe perfectly you woulde then haue all people vpon your part and make insurrections, to driue thē out of the lande: they wil prouide for this matter, and put you to death lo uingly, before you make such con= trouersye, that they may gather vp againe their great giftes, vpō youre treasures, and maintaine their gorgi ous garmentes, with their false bry= brie: their fine Spanishe brauerye with oppression of the pore people, and bye their lustye liueres with ex= ceading great excises. There be ma= ny other braunches, but I shewe these for a brefe example, that ye may by your wisedomes picke oute the rest. And yet if ye pull of euery braunch

The first rote and first braunch.

The .vii. serpentes of the firste braunche

vii. serpentes, ye shal finde a deuelish companie.

As for example. VVhen ye bee trodden vnder foote, marke my woordes well, euery skurueie knaue shal come to your house and take the best part, leauing you the worste. Ye must obeie him like a Senioure, ye must geue them the best beddes, and take the worste pacientlie for youre selfes: for you haue lord Dannes cõe againe of them, and thei shall putte you in remembraunce of the miseres that your parentes suffered vnder them, whiche ye haue forgot, thei ar so long past.

A Senior

The worste of them shall bee better estemed, with the kinge and his counsel, then the best of your realme, ye must be gladd to geue them place not of curtesie, but of perforce: they must be set in the highest place, and you in the lowest. If one of them be appointed in your house, by the kinge or his counsel, or els receyued

for

for his moneie, the house must be his and not yours. Obiecci-ons.

And yet will he departe withoute taking leaue or paying for lodging.

Some man will saie, that is not true: for they haue paide euery man iustly the vttermost pennie. I speake not of that, which thei haue done in Englande, but of that which the most parte of them dooe in these countries, and thei wil dooe, when they maie beare rule, euen amongest you in Englande.

And yet, I thinke, there be some, that paid not verie iustly for al thigs when thei were amongest you laste. For I my selfe knowe manye worshippeful menne, which, if thei durst, woulde take their othe, and seke for recompence, that lodged, ye that lodged Spaniardes, in their house a yeare and more, and lette them haue halfe a dossen beddes and chaumbers with all thinges perteininge to them, a greate parte of their

The Spaniardes kepe chereles kitchens

fyre woode, and such other stuffe for buttery and chereles kitchen, &c.

And yet the Spaniardes at their departing would nother paye for many thinges that were stollen, nor for many thinges that were lost, as thei said, nor for many thinges, that wer broken and rente, nor to speake plainly, for many thinges whiche were so bawdye, with their pockie plaisters, that no man could lye in them afterwardes. I know diuerse of them, that paide their accoumpres so iustlye, & toke their leaue so hõestly: that their hostes knew not of their departing, but left the bakers, bruers, bouchers, woodmõgers and coliers, one of thẽ to paie anothers skore. Yf thei departed stoutly in these dayes, when they dissembled al goodnes, when thei trusted to winne the gouernaũce of the realme and the crowne with gentlenes and good condicions: what wyll thei doe, I praye you, whẽ they haue the crowne indede. But to returne ye

Pockie plaisters.

The maner of taking leue among Spani.

ye muste geue them leaue to speake, when you must holde your peace, ye must cap to them in all places where ye see them, although it be not your custome, or rather theirs indede, yet he is a very rusticall beast, that doeth it not to thē: for ye know, the worste of them is a Senior: ye must preferre them in all thinges, and geue all the names of honor, excepte maiestie, to the vilest slaue amongest them.

VVoulde not any man be agreued to reade my worke, if I should shewe al their peuishe pride, is ther any mā so solishe, that thinketh I coulde not easely sucke out of their pride a thousande pestiferous poisons, and yet not racke it halfe so sore, as a wise mā both would and could doe. Take another example, loke vpon their flatterie, which is the leaste faulte of fiftye and the smalleste rote of all the reste: Remēber their pleasaunt promises, repaide with preposterous performacions: ye shall proue, that the vileste

The seconde example of flatterie. The brāches.

wretche

wretche of them all shalbee in more credite, then the best of your frends. And yet their promises shalbe so fair that ani man liuing woulde credite their wordes. Their countenaunce, shalbe so pleasaunte towardes you, that ye would thinke thē to be your verie frendes, whē in verie dede thei seal sek your viter destruction, and to cast you out of fauoure. Ye shall be gladde to make long labourre for smal matters: and at the last not sped.

Another obiecciō made by flatterers

And yet would they be in god your faithfull frendes. Some of their false flattering fauorers will saie, that all men maie perceiue perfectly, that I slaunder Spaniardes wrongefullye: for they haue holpen many synce their comming into England. But remember I tolde you they counterfeited condicions, because they might seme like vnto vs, and the more easely disceaue vs.

These were counterfeite cōdiciōs to disceue vs.

For that, which thei haue done in Englande, was no part of their nature,

ture, but the greatest part of dissimu- Dissimus
lacion, and a plaine preparaciō to dis- lacion.
ceaue oure nobilite. For wherefore
should thei seke to maintaine oure
nobilite, and the honor of the realm
in his own estate: doe ye thinke, if
thei obteine the crown, thei wil maī
teine the nobilite and the realme vp-
pon their own charges: were it not
better for them to destroie the nobi This thei
lite and bring the kingdome, whiche goe a-
thei loue so well, to their own com- bout dy-
modites. Mark more of their naturs. ligently.
One of them shal laugh to your face
when his acquaintaunce shal kil you
behinde youre backe. Howe manye
Englishe men did the Spaniardes
kil in their arses, or not much aboue
the arse, whē thei wer in Englād last
of fauour receiued: most cōmōlie one
of thē wil talke with you pleasātly,
& kil you sodēlie whē he sēeth most
your frend How many bitter biting
serpentes, thinke you, do spring oute
of euerie braunche. Take their plea-
saunte promyses, where one of

The ser-pentes of the firſte braunch. Therfore they woulde not that youſhold know their treaſons. Take this point of wiſdom. This is painfull.

them ſhal ſeme your frende, and bee your vtter enemie. They ſaie euerye foole canne beware of his enemye whiche he knoweth: but I aſſure you he is a wiſe man, that can heare their falſe faining flattery, and abhorre thē as his mortall enemies. One of them ſhal flatter you in the hall, when another worketh miſcheffe in your chāber. Thei wil borow al that you haue if ye knowe not their condicions, & pay nothing at all. Thoughe ye wyll lende them no money, yet either for faire or foule, ye muſte credite them til a paye daie, eyther willingly or agaynſt your will.

And then will they ſtillely ſteale away and pay nothing: for the paye day ſhal either be at their departing, or els ſo lōg before, that of force thei muſt take vp .iii. times ſo much more to leaue vpon the ſkore, before their departing.

They wil ſpeake like faithful frends til they haue their purpoſe, and then

berayle

beraile you like deuils with curſinge and grīnig, ſwering and ſhaking the heades.

So that ye ſhalbe gladde to loſe your owne right, that ye may get out of their companie. But if ye woulde loſe your goodes, to be diſpatched from ſuch villanes companie, howe much yet ſhall it greue your heartes to be vnder their ſubiection, to lette them rule you continuallie, that thei maie poole you lawfullie. Yet ſome of them wil take their leaue craftelī: and leaue a ſturdie ſtuarde to make a rekeninge: and the ſtuarde in one nighte ſhall ſteale away and paie no thing. Note.

Thei wil flatter you more falſelie, then any nacion in the worlde: and take hede that many of our noble menne ſhall mi lorde proue perfectly in ſhort time, if they thei be worke not wiſelie: & yet for all this falſe trai- ye may not ſay they lie, whē in dede tors to they cannot ſpeake ttueth. Thei wil wardes boaſt themſelues to be moſte righte you pri- ous uely.

ous iudges on the earthe. But if ye come once in trouble, the falsest knave in their companie, if his tale be once told, shal cause you to be cast in prison immediatlie: and there shal ye remaine till ye bee gladde to saie, that trueth is falsehode, and falsehod is trueth.

For ye maie not saie, as ye know wel inough, that the falsest knaue amõg thẽ hath tolde a false tale. Is not this equall iustice: doe ye not see it is in vaine and ouer tedious to wryte all thinges. I am farre past my promes, and yet the farther I seke, the more deuellishe frute I finde.

And shal doe if I seke all my life time.

Let vs leaue all order, and take a nother rote by chaunce, that ye may be sure ye cannot goe amisse, but ye shal finde euerie tree bringing forth her fruite plentifullie. As for exam ple. Marke their abominable and moste superstitious hipocrisie.

And

And ye ſhall proue, they care for no parte of Goddes moſte holye ſeruice, but a maſſe onelie, whether it be holy day or woorke daie. If the maſſe be begonne before their comming, God heareth not their praiers. But if thei be preſente al the maſſe time, thoughe they talke of almaner bawdie vices, the matter is goodenoughe: thoughe thei knelle, all the time maſſe is celebratinge, ſpienge, where is the faireſt woman, it is wel: thoughe thei praie not .iii. wordes, and thoſe with oute all deuocion, yet is he holie enoughe.

the third example of ſuperſticious hipocriſi The brauches.

If he imagine all that time, howe to obtaine another mannes wife, maide or daughter, it is no ſinne: when they deuyſe to diſceiue another man, to ſpoile him of his goods, to robbe him of his good name, to kill him or ſuche like miſcheſe, it is no offence.

If

Great abuse.

Yf a Spaniarde be going to churche on a Sabboth day, and remember a mischeuous dede to be wroughte, he may returne to his mischefe, and geue a riall of plate to a Priest, that he may say masse: & that euil which he goth about, is good and iustie: that daie he may vse al vilanie. but if he haue bē at masse, whosoeuer saieth he cannē sinne that day, shalbe called a Lutheran, though he returne after masse to al mischefe, as a dogge to his vomit, thoughe he folowe the worlde the flesh, the deuill, and all his workes, yet preachers say not contrarie, but thei be gods deare brethren. Euerie man knoweth, the braunches, that spring out of this roote, be innumerable. If ye cannot nomber the braūches how wil ye nomber the budde or rather the biting serpents which spring from euery braunche. Ye wil call me halfe an heretike. Ther is difference, betwene confirming of heresie, and reprouing ipocrisie. I serued

whoso speaketh the truth is halfe an here tike.

Note the differēce.

in

in kinge Edwardes time the ryghte worshippefull, and mi good master, sir william Skipewithe, in Lincolneshere, and although he be offended with me, because more wildelie then wittelie I departed from his seruice, yet both he, and all that countrie can reporte mi doinges. For I am sure, though he knewe not my departing nor knoweth where I am, yet his worshipp wil recorde truely, that I neuer loued hereſie, because I neuer pretended nor did ani euill, falsehode or mischiefe, towardes him. I haue not spoken this, because thou shouldest thinke, as heritikes teache, that the most holy sacrifice of the masse as we call it, shoulde be naught: frō which error thou shalt come easely, remembring that the holy catholike church hath ordained that most holi sacrifice in all partes like to the supper, and passion of our sauiour Christ, to be a perfect remembraunce of his passiō till he returne to iudge the worlde.

The sacrifice of the masse the passion of Christe.

Heretiks

Heretikes wil say, here ye may proue the masse to be but a remembraūce. this, but, is heresie: for vndoubtedlye there is ministred and receiued, in or vnder the forme of bread and wine, the very body and bloud of oure sauiour Christ.

Another sore heresie,

VVe reade, saith another simple soule, that god made man, but we neuer reade that a knaue priest coulde make Christe. Nor thou shalt neuer reade this, so longe as thou lyueste. Howe is he there then: euen by hys moste holie omnipotente word. For like as it pleased him, beinge verye omnipotente God, to make himself for the ineffable loue, which he bare towards vs, by his omnipotēt word perfecte man. So likewise, it pleaseth his deuine maiestie, to bee ministred vnto vs, in the moste blessed sacramente, that we beeing manye' members receiuinge that moste blessed sacrament worthelimay receue the our sauiour christ, which is our head

Marke howe Christ is in the sacrament. The verrue of Christ in the supperconsecrate in the masse

an

and being cõglutinate, and ioined to the same, may be made one perfecte & most semeli mistical body. I woid handell this matter more largely, but it is not semely to cast pearles amõg hogges. I meane, it is not meete, to mingle such diuine matters, amõgst such deuilishe dregges, as I haue begonne to write of.

Those mẽ which wil dispute in diuinite, ought to be perfectly learned.

And ye remember I told you, I lacked knowledge to entreate of suche hiegh diuinite: returne & loke what euill fruites spring out of this brauch of hipocrisie, for in that they thinke it sufficient for thẽ, to say, heare, orse masse, marke what foloweth. The Spanish priests may, for the deuelish example to all other persons, leade whores to churche in the morninge, hande in hande. VVhen the Priestes be in the temple they wil talke more vilie and more baudelye, then al others, and yet will the vile wretches presume, to say masse immediatlye, thinkig, as did the vile traitor Iudas,

The serpentes of the firste braunche

The first and most deuelishe serpẽt hath bitten the Priestes.

Presumtyon.

that he doth god good seruice, when he dāneth his own soule. After masse wil the deuelishe priest returne, leading the whore home againe, keepe her companie all the daie time, without exhortaciō to repentaunce, and lie with her al the night. I speake not of mens wiues, but curtesaunce and commen whores, that for money receiue euerie knaue. I would not that any man should thinke the masse euil which this cursed priest doeth celebrate: for the masse, which is vndoutedly gods most holy worde, is so perfecte and so pure of it selfe, that the euill prieste can not make it worse nor the good prieste can make it no better.

Marke this lye.

The euil priest can not corrupt it nor the good priest, can not purifie it: for like as if a good priest doe baptise one childe, and an euil priest baptise a nother childe, her bothe the children receaue one holy goste and are both equally clensed from sinne

A trewe example

Euer

Euen so though an euill priesse saye masse, and consecrate that most blessed sacrament, and ministre it to me, and a good priesse dooeth likewise minister to another man, yet bothe we receiue the most holy bodie and bloud of our sauiour Christ, and are both ioyned, and made members of the same: for these holy misteries be not made by the good priest, nor the euil priest, but by goddes most holye worde.

VVhiche worde remaineth euer most perfect and pure: mary the euill priest, vndoubtedlie, offendeth many mens cõsciences most greuouslie, dishonoreth god moste shamefullie, with liuing so viciouslie cõdemneth his owne soule perpetuallie, beecause he commeth presumptuouslie, to the lordes borde vnworthelie: wher the good priest, cleane cõtrarie, brigeth manie to gods verite, honoreth god perfectly, with keping perfect charite, and in liuing religiously, his soule

The vertue of the sacramẽts is not by the prists power, but by gods worde. the prists reward. yf we receue worthely, we shalbe saued, iudging oure selues

 shal saith paul

The reward of a good priest.

the abuse of gods seruice damnable.

this ought not to be

shal liue assuredly with Christ continually in ioye euerlastingly. All men may perceiue that I write not thys, because any man shoulde thinke euil or despice gods moste holye seruice: But because al men may know, that the very nature of Spaniardes is abominable, in all thinges. Because euery man may know, that gods moste holy seruice is pure, and perfect: And the abuse of it is damnable: and because al men may knowe, that suche cursed knaues make not onely gods worde, which is moste good and godly, moste iuste and moste trewe, but also all good priestes, euill spoken of and abhorred in euery place: what greater mischise can there be, amongest Christen men, then that the Priest shoulde thinke himselfe clensed with speaking the wordes, and the people iudge themselues purified with hearing the same. Be not these worse then the Pharisees, that thinke to be saued with saying wel and working euill: or if the Iewes were not saued

with hearing christ himself preache, how much lesse shall these wretches be saued with hearing masse: Marke and you shall finde al such superstycious hipocrisie damnable. The gospel teacheth vs, that not eueri one, which said, lord, lord, shal enter into the kingdom of heauen: but he that worketh the wil of god shalbe saued not the hearers of the lawe, but the workers, shalbe accompted iust. Not those which say the cõmaundemẽtes daily, but those whiche bothe say in their hartes, and indeuoure thẽselfes in all their doinges to kepe the commaundementes, shall please god. Not those whiche say in their pater noster, good lorde deliuer vs from euill, but those whiche forgeue their neyghbours wyth all their heartes, and flye from synne wyth all theyr myghte, shall bee forgeuen of God, and be saued. Yet though we doe al thys, we cannot iustifie oure selues, because we can not fulfill the lawe.

Hearing of masse doth saue no man

God, would haue vs to folow his commaundementes in worde and dede

what people the lord will pardone.

Christ is the oneli redemer and the perfect fulfiller of the lawe. Note.

But our sauiour Christ hath fulfilled the lawe perfectly, and vndoubtedlye redemed vs, with the sheddinge of his most precious bloud. And therefore he bidderh vs not seke to iustifie our selues, but commaundeth vs, to doe all that we can, towardes our own iustificacion: which Spaniards nother doe, nor wil not doe. Christē men must call them selues vnprofitable seruauntes, when they haue done all that they can doe: but Spaniardes call them selues, gods profitable seruauntes, and do nothing. what shold I declare, how thei carie their beades openly, to be sene of all people: how they praye in euerye corner of the streates, that euery man maye heare them: how they knele at euery mans dore, before Imags knockinge, crossinge, Sobbinge, syghinge wringinge their handes, waggynge their heades, with suche other vnsemelye maners, that all menne maye perceiue their repentaunce, and with

Ergo thei be not only neighbours to mors but also, morishe Iews thē selues.

hipocrits

in

in a quarter of an houre afterwardes ye shal finde these dissimulate soro wes abiected, and the vnpenitente person among a nomber of arrante whores: doe ye not knowe that most part of them, wil not geue almes but where they may be set in a boke, that all their contremen may know, how much, and how mani times in the yer thei geue almes. VVhat other thing did the Iewes and Pharisees. Did not Christ in the. vi. of Mathew, reproue suche hipocrisie: but let all christiās take this general rule: that like as our pater noster can not be made euyll, though cursed wretched persōs vse or rather abuse it hipocritically, but euer remainth perfect, pure & good, euen so the masse, almes dedes, holye breade, holy water, goinge with procession, auriculer confession, beades, Images, and all other thynges, which Christ & the holy catholyke church haue commaunded, ordeined, confirmed and established, to moue vs, strengeth

Good Christiās doubtles and so is belzebub Almes.

Mat. vi.

Good me ought to speake a gainste the abuse of good thynges.

strength vs,& preserue vs in perfect true religion,cannot be made euill, though cursed vnretched persons abuse them most abominablye. I tell you how they abuse these thinges& speake against the abuse, as all good men ought to doe,and not agaynste the thinges themselues,as heretikes doe.

But what shoulde I runne farther and farther frõmy matter. For thogh I haue proued but. vii. braunches to spring out of euery rote,and. vii. serpentes out of euery braunche: yet if Shortnes of tyme will not suffer me tocorrect my letter shortenes of tyme compelled me not to returne to other matters,I coulde showe you the names of. lxxvii,brãches, that spring out of euery roote And. lxxvii. serpẽtes that springe out of euery braunche: I promes you assuredly,if ye cast your reckening lustlye of all the rest,as I haue done these,iii. rootes,before your eyes,keping this order,firste takinge the rootes,from

the

the first to the laste: theyr pryde, ma lice and enuie, their poolynge, brag geing, and bribrie, their boastynge, feyning and flartering, their deuilish dealing, whorehunting, and most ru full ruleing, vngracious gouernmēt, vnlawfull actes, insaciate luste, theyr stoutenes, stubbernes, chourleishnes rouetousnes, and vnmesurable mad nes, in lothesome lechery, vaine glo ry and hipocrisie, with all other vyla nie, superstitiō, desolaciō, extorcion, adulacion, suppression, mutacyon, ex altacion, expulsion, decolusion, ye wotte what I meane, inductyon, re duction, possession, dysposytion, com pulsyon, dissimulacion, ambycyon, and so foorth from. vii. rootes, to lxxvii. for there be vii. other rotes, leapte in at the fyrste mouynge, whiche accordinge to theyr nature brynge foorth worse fruite for all noble menne, then those whyche I haue rehearsed before.

Howe ye ought to take first the rotes, then the braūches and laste of all the serpentes There be so manye mischeses that sprig out of these rootes that al ournoble men shal be poyso ned with thē, take hede ther fore.

After

Mark this multiplicacion.

After the rootes, take the braunches out of euery rote, laste of all, put out the buddinges, or bitinge serpentes, so manie as ye canne, oute of euerie braunche, and ye shall proue, if ye rekē perfectly, that these .lxxvii. rotes, where I haue named them but once, do sprig .lxxvii. times in one yeare, and at euery springe time, eche rote bringeth soorth .lxxvii. braunches, and euery braunche bringeth forthe lxxvii. serpentes, and euery serpent spitteth oute lxxvii. kindes of poison.

I meane with thoughts care and miserie to be in slauerie.

And the leaste parte wil kil, if they but taiste of it .lxx. Englishe mē. For the Spanishe grounde is so hote, fertille, and frutefull, that euery poison is worse then other, and the beste of them al vncurable: ye perceiue now perfectly that I raile not, excepte ye wil proue Christe himselfe a railer. I am sure Christ railed not, in declarig the iniquites of the Scribes and Pharisees, because he spake but the truth

and

and not so largely as he might haue done: trueth cannot lie, nor raile, and then ye muste nedes graunte, that I am no railing knaue, though ye nãe me so, because I haue spoken nothig but the trueth, and not so muche by a thousande partes, as I both coulde and woulde proue, if I mighte haue leisure to write, and set out the rotes, braunches, serpentes and poisons, euerie one in order, as they ought to be. Surely but that I desier to showe your lordeships other matters briefly, I could write of the nature of Spaniardes: A volume importable. But If I should write all, that I knowe, ye woulde not credite me: ye ought to beleue al that whiche I haue writtẽ, because ye knowe perfectlye, I haue written nothing, but that whiche euerie man knoweth to be their commen customes, and immutable maners.

The authors excuse.

And ye see by these exãples, that I write not halfe the morishe maners whiche

Morishe maners.

whych they vse continually. Manye of my frendes haue geuen me coũsel to write my letter, but not my name for feare your lordeshippes wold punishe me, with impriſõment, rackig, hanging, drawing and quarteryng, for ſpeakyng agaynſte the kinges coronacion, which I thynke ye cannot doe lawfully: for ſo long as he is not crowned, that manne is no traitour that ſpeaketh agaynſt his coronaciõ, but after his maieſtie hath the crown the beſt of you all, that ſpeaketh agaynſt the Spaniardes proceadings, ſhalbe proued and poniſhed, lyke a rãcke traitor. But I haue written my name plainly, that I may thereby, eyther geue youre lordeſhippes warninge, to kepe youre honours & the whole realme oute of their bondage, Or els that I maye goe honeſtlye to the galowes, and ende this pore life, with an honorable death, for me & my countrye. VVhen your moſt honorable liues, if ye diſenherit the realme

take hede your ſelues, for this toucheth your lyues.

Like as it is honore for a trew man to dye for the defẽs of his coũtrie, ſo it is ſhame, to die

realme of the crowne, shalbe ended with great dishonor, wretchednesse, miserie, and shame, for you and your successours for euer: yet I wolde hope to escape, when you are sure to die. For doubteles after that Spaniardes haue safely planted thēselues in the lande, thei wold trust me to be their faithful frēd: because they knowe I loue trueth, and am trewe to my coū trey, when thei wil neuer trust your lordeshippes, if ye wilbe so rancke & false traitors, as to geue thē the crown of our realme willingly: & I woulde not your lordshippes should thinke me so foolyshe, as to speake agaynst his coronacion, if your lordeshippes graunt to it. Some men saie ye haue gone so farre, ye cānot turne backe. I know not what ye haue dōe, but I am sure, what ye may dō. if ye haue graū ted thi the crown, it shalbe muche bet ter for you, to stād to that which ye may do, thē performe that which ye haue prōised. For I am sure, so lōg as the

like a traitour, a gainst this countrey Note.

Spa. wyll neuer trust traitors. I say not ye be so.

It lieth yet in your power.

the king of Ierusalē is not crowned in England, ye may chose, whether ye wil crowne him or not. And surely if I were worthie to be one of the counsell in England, my counsell shoulde be, that the king should first be crowned in the Citie of Ierusalem lawfully, because it is the more auncient and more noble kingdome, and bring all the Iewes into subiection and make them good Christians, before he shouldē haue the crowne of England wrongfullie, either for fayre wordes, great bribes, false flatterings promises, cruell manacinges, terrible threatninges, or anie other false crafty polices.

For Christ chose to be king of the Iewes.

I thought your lordeshippes had knowledge partly of their counsell as they reporte, that the frenche king knoweth yours. But now I perceive their secrete, priuie, and concluded counsels lie hidden from your lordeshippes, when ye know not the rude principles, where vpon many great matte

Rude principles.

matters be grounded: if ye do knowe them, and wil not credit them, pardō me for writing in vaine: if ye know them not, howe can ye bee offended with me, for declaring to your lorde shippes such thinges, as be pretēded to your destruction, the losse of your liues, landes, wiues and children, and finally the losse of your honors, the ruine of the realme, the suppressiō of the commen wealth, & the bondage of your countrie for euer. Ye ought the rather to credite me, beecause I speake nothing, god I call for wytnes, for malice of Spaniardes nor to flatter Englishe men: I thinke neuer to come seke bribes at youre handes for my labour, and therfore it appeareth plainly, that I write for none other purpose, but only to geue youre lordeshippes knowledge and warning of their most morishe maners, and cursed condicions, that ye maye the more prudently prouide to withstand their terrible threatninges, pre-

It preuaileth not, to disclos treason, if ye will not withstande it or credit the truth God witnesseth with trueth, which boweth to nother party. whi this letter is written. Take warning in time or els.

tenſed treaſons, and peſtiferous pol-
ces, and ſo preſerue youre honorable
perſons, and the whole realme oute
of their tiranny and bondage. Do ye
think, I durſt be ſo bolde as to offēde
god, in ſpeakinge contrarye to the
trueth, and lying ſlaunderouſli and
ſhamefullie, againſt my Chriſtē bro-
ther: I know we are all brethren, if
we haue the loue, and feare of God
continually before our eyes, in our ſa-
uiour Ieſus Chriſt, and we oughte to
loue one another mutuallye like bre-
thren: but as god deuided the lang-
guages of men, ſo hath he cauſed eue-
ry nacion to loue more naturally all
thoſe, that be borne in the ſame ſelf
country, then foreners, and hath ge-
uen, accordir g to his ineffable good-
nes, certeine places of the earth for e-
uery nacion ſeuerally to inhabite, cō-
maunding vs ſtraightly, that one of
vs ſhal not wrongfullye couete ano-
thers goodes, and ſpecially our Chri-
ſten brothers, which cōmaundemēt
the

Nature cauſeth me, to diſcouer the Spani. treaſon.

As England for Engliſhemē. Spa. for. Spa. &c.

the Spaniardes saye they will kepe.
For whatsoeuer saye they is done in
England, touching the crown or the
gouernaunce of the realme, shall cō
through procuremēt but of the coū
sell themselues. For we knowe well
enoug, they say, that there be suche
deuillishe people in Englād to work
treason and make insurrections, that
it is in vaine for oure kinge to haue
the crown, except the counsell wyll
also deliuer him certeine of the stron
gest holdes and porte townes, mark
my wordes well, for his refuge at all
times, till his maiestie maye be able
to bring in power to withstande his
enemies: and then we shall make all
our hauen townes more strōge, to the
landes warde, then they be to wardes
the see. But know ye for what pur
pose they pretende this policie: that
a small nomber of Souldiours, maye
bee able to keepe the Realme,

Seīg this must cōe to passe take good hede to your selues. Marke this policie. The kīgs first good worke to England. At that marke thei all shote.

Let them not haue such vantage at youre handes. For the king sice his commig into England cannot yet get a grote, frō Spaine. The kīgs treserer wt ēt oute ofenglād but returned not till oure moneye was cōe ouer and

quietly, and burne the countreye .iii. or iiii. times eueri yere til we can be contented, to obey all their constitutions, ordinaunces and lawes: they bragge that if thei may be vitled by the see at their backes, thei shal trouble, and toile Englishe men so long, til we be able to suffer no longer, for what great trouble wil it be for vs to burne, betwene Southhāpton & Douer. Thei trust the quenes highnes for the kinges maintenaunce, wyll poole the realme, with subsidies and beneuolēcies, so much as in her grace lieth, and geue al our treasure out of the lande, now at the kinges cōming to her grace: so that the kinges maiestie with our treasure, and his owne reuenewes in this time of peace, shal enriche himselfe, that when we haue small force of money bycause our treasure shalbe caried out of the lād the king and all our enemies mai cō into the realme, and worke mischefe against vs: for thei shall haue mone

fro

from all places and aide of many nacions. And they beleue assuredlie to be aided by the greatest part of oure owne countrre men. For the Quene & good men wil take their part against heretikes: thei thinke there bee but fewe noble mẽ in Englande, but they wil be contented, either by gift of the Quenes highnes, or els for greate bribes, riche rentes and good giftes, to graunt that the king may haue a iuste title to the crown, or els receue him in vpon one partye, that he may ouercome the other perforce. And thei thinke there wilbe but few men against them for at their firste comming thei wil geue suche great gifts and pay mony to poore souldiers so largely, liberally, and surely, that whẽ we haue scante of money, poore men wilbe content to serue for their money, gentell men and noble men for couetousnes to ẽcrease their liuings and landes: but wott ye to what end all this cõmeth: Thoughe ye receiue

new stamped, which made store euer sins in antwarpe

Take coũsel be tie. These rentes be better lost, then found.

But whẽ thei be holpẽ and bear rule you shall pay it triple in exactions.

If ye be true among your selfs thei dare neuer geue you battaile. If they kept not couenaũt with Millãe or Naples, howe sholdthei kepe couenaunte with you

them into the lãd,& setue vpõ their part,yet dare thei not trust you, but armided to pay you well for a time, that you may fight mãfully against your own coũtrey,whiles they come skirmishing at a backe winge, or els stãd loking vpõ you: for thei say thei be not so madd,as to fight with english men,& be killed like beasts: but whẽ ye haue brought thẽ in,& wõne thẽ the victori & stablished thẽ surely & quietly,thẽ,as I haue told you, wil thei destroy all you,& gather vp agayne their great giftes vpon your treasures.

Is not this a lamentable case, that we englishe men,for feare of mutabilite or chaunge of religion, which cõmeth by gods ordinaunce, shall seke to plant willingly such a nacyon in our own country,as seke the vtter destruccion of the same : But thys is most miserable,most shamefull,most detestable & moste abominable,that so noble and prudent gouernours,as

you

your lord shippes, shoulde either for
faire words, loue, feare, gifts, bribes, Let not
threatnings, manacings or any kind these
of couetousnes, seke the subuersyon thinges
of their coūtry, the destrucciō of the blīd your
comme wealth, & the vtter decaye eies, thē,
of your most noble bloud for euer. may you
this last point doe I lamēt, more thē like most
al the rest: for if any of your moste noble go
noble linage might liue in autorite, uernors,
as the Spaniards sai in dede, we might defende
haue some comforte, to restore the your owne
realme and the weale publike to his country.
olde perfecte estate: but if ye deliuer If ye no-
the crown out of your hāds, I meane ther care
not the crown of gold onely, but al- for youre
so the power that goeth with it, ye owne liues
shal in short time haue so great a fal, nor your
hat their shal not liue one of youre children,
inage, that shalbe able to defend his I cā geue
wn right, nor to rule, as his predecs you no
ours haue done, nor yet to reuenge counsell
is fathers death. This ye must nedes to care
raunte, that it is necessarye for the for the
inges maiestie to worke the sureste whole
aye for hys owne commodite and realme.

preseruacion, that can bee deuyſed or founde out by the aduice of his counſell.

And then I am ſure there is none of you ſo fooly ſhe, that thinketh to beare rule in the common wealthe, or about the kinges maieſtie: for all the worlde knoweth the moſte deteſtable and moſt abominable treaſons, whiche our nobilite doe worke againſt their own natural kinges continually.

This ſuſpicion haſteth youre death

And therfore Spaniardes myghte be called men of ſmall wiſedome, if thei cold not forecaſt ſuch daūgers, but thei haue prouided for it wellenough, would to god your lordſhips knewe perfectly ſo muche, as I haue ſene with mine eies, and heard with mine eares, or els woulde for youre owne profit, your owne honor, youre own wealth, the preſeruaciō of your country, the loue of your children, & the ſafegarde of your own liues, credit my wordes. For then youre moſt

I beſeche your lordſhips to loke vprightly, I deſire you not to remēber me, nor my profit.

prudent

prudent wisdomes coulde the better prouide to withstande their preten sed treasons. Ye will saye, howe coulde this felow see, heare, or kno matters of their counsell: I was as all men knowe chamberleine to one of the kinges priuie counsell. And gaue my selfe with all diligence, to write and reade Spanish: which thing once obteined, I kept secrete from my master, and his seruauntes, that I myghte the rather with diligēt seruice be trusted in my masters closet or studye, and so reade suche letters, as I sawe brought to the counsell chamber. VVhich thinge I did, as opertunite serued: yet I cannot vnderstande any part of their priuie and concluded counsels, but the effecte of suche letters as were written from one counseller to another.

Make good prouision with this warning Yet will thei deny that euer thei thought hereof.

I wil shewe onli that I saw in the leters

I knowe not how, nor what they haue determined vpon the said letters, but I founde this written in certeine letters that were sent from the

Emperours

The effect of the Emperours letters.

Emperours maieſtie alſo, a yeare before the kinges comming oute of Englande, that the kinges maieſtye ſhould make his excuſe to the quens highnes, that he woulde goe ſee hys father in Flaūders, & returne immediatly. But ſeing the good ſimple Quene, pardon me though I ſolowe the fraſe of the letters, is ſo lelous ouer my ſonne, as the letter termed it, we ſhal make her agree to al our requeſtes before his return, or els kepe him here exerciſed in other effaires, til we can agree with the counſell, who vndoubtedli wil be eaſeli wōn with faire wordes, great bribes and good giftes, politickly placed in tie, with many other things, how theſe matters muſt be handled, how they muſt be brought to paſſe, how al parties muſte bee ſolowed, whom they might truſte, what men woulde diſceue them, whom they muſte winne with bribes, and whom thei myghte winne with faire promiſes, whō thei thought

Marke if thei practiſe not after thys ſort daily

take hede mi lordes ye can kepe your giftes, but at the kinges pleaſure.

thought like trewe mē would vvith stand them, and hovve the false traitours vvoulde receue them: that the Emperoure vvould appointe the king such counselers for the same purposes, as he in many yeares had proued to be trevve and vvise in their doinges, so that the kinges maiestye myght be bolde at the first presente, to putte his truste in them, vvhom his father in lōg processe of time, & vvith greate experiēce, had proued and circumspectly picked out, amōge many false dissemblinge flatterers, vvith innumerable such prudent coūsels touchinge Fraunce, Flaunders, Naples, Millane, Boemia, Hungery, Turky, and diuerse other countryes, as betvvene Spayne and the Mores.

Marke whom thei cal trew mē and traitors,

VVherof I knowe perfectlye they haue brought many thigs to passe & mani thei be like to obtein, al which maters, because they pertein litle to our coūtrey, I wil passe ouer with silence,

But why then is not the Quene endowed as fully in al his.xxv. kingdōs. For her own destrucciō.

silence. In other letters I haue founde the case disputed that the quens highnes was bounde, by the lawes of god to endowe the kinges grace, her husbande, in all her worldly possessions and goods, so farre as in her maiestie lyeth, and they thinke she will doe it in dede to the vttermoste of her power No man can thinke any euill in the Quenes highnesse, though her grace be somthing moued, whē such bondes, as touche her conscience, bee beaten into her memorie priuely. Let all men therfore take hede, & beware diligentlye, that no man be so bolde, or rather so deuelishe, as once to pretende any euill towardes the quenes maiestie, in pain of perpetual punisment. For vndoubtedlye if any euyll should be wrought against her hyghnesperson, god would not onely require her bloude with condemnyng such malefactors for euer more therfore but also would plage the whole realme most greuouslie for such wickednes,

Lette no man pretēde euill to the Quenes person, for then god wyll plage the whole realme.

kednts. But if I wer worthy to geue your lordesh ppes counsel, ye sholde banisshe from the courte, except whē the king is present, which wil be very seldom what wai soeuer ye work, mistres Clarentius, Elizabeth Dyas, the Ladie of phisike, I know not her name, and all other that speake Spanisshe. I wil not say that like foolysh girles, doe loue Spaniardes, whyche might seme like to geue the Quene counsell in these matters. For they vndoubtedly haue and dooe beate into her heade, more then all you cā deuise to pull oute. The Spaniardes know not, whether the crowne do belonge to the Quenes maiestie or the realme, whether it be in her power to geue it wher please her, or in the power of the whole realme to be stow it lawfully wher it of right shold be: neuertheles they can wel be contented to flatter youre lordeshippes till that be perfectly proued. And if they receiue any comforte therin, to bribe

Beyng crowned he wil liue away and appointe you a sp. viceroye

wemens councels deuelishe

Marke diligentlye what thei pretende after wardes,

Here beginneth destruction.

bribe you freli til the same be deliue red, but then they must begin to go uern e and beare rule. For which go= uernmēt would to god I knew their counsels, or els that your lordships woulde beeleue that, whiche I haue heard and sene. I haue founde other letters, which I woulde not that any man shouldcredit, touching mi lord Paget. That he should be the kinges aduersarie and the French kings sede debite, to declare vnto him all youre counsels.

Talbotte the lords Greye, & Clinton must dye for cap= raynes. Yese my lordes what the Spa. pre= pare for you.

But in these letters be conteined diuerse other: as the lord Treasorer is counted the kinges ytter enemye, the lorde Talbot is not their frende, the lord Grey they trust not, the lord Clinton thei loue not, therfore they think, if these and diuerse other lords in the North were made awaye, thei should be in lesse daūger, and the ra ther obtaine their purpose. And yet thei say, thei must of nece ssite flatter my lord Treasorer and my lord Pa=

get

get craftili, til thei mai obtaine their purpoſe. Becauſe thei two bee apte veſſels to worke treaſon by. Ye may well perceiue therfore that they will flatter al you, ſeeīg they flatter theſe whom they take for their enemies, and ſo fayne theſe lies againſte my lord Paget inuented treaterouſly, to make him out of the way, with the reſt. For if euer the kinge beare rule, theſe which I haue named ſhalbe exámined as ſtraitlye, as the Spaniſhe lawes wil extende to hādle the kīgs enemis. There be many other noble men, whoſe ſtowtnes muſt be pulled down, & their power abated. I write not this to bring any of theſe noble men in ſuſpection, but that ye maye perceue, what wayes thei inuente to bring variaunce amongeſt you, that thei might be called to mak agremēt. for thei hope, if one part of the nobilite would once withſtande the other, that then ſhoulde they be receiued, thoughe they preuaile not beefore time. But reade further

It ſhalbe more for your commodite, to agree among yourſelfs. Be true to youre countrey.

and you shal know the trueth. They thinke your lordeshippes, my Lorde Admiral, the erle of Oxforde, and diuers other, to be their frendes: therefore they purpose if euer they beare rule to ioyne with you in councell, for a time, & the state of the realme once knowen, let you die pleasaunt lie, with racking, hanging, drawyng, quartering, and whirling vpō whils iustly according to youre desertes. ye wil say the king doth not vse his coūsellers so in any countrei: in dede, the king hath in euery countrey certeine churles of the same lande picked out whiche be craftie knaues, and canne finde at their hartes, for their owne lucre and priuat gaynes, to inuent all the waies possible, to pole their own country, according as his counsel can deuise to commaunde them, and to liue, as ye shal reade hereafter, according to the nature of Spaniardes. and so the true men to their country are traiterously ouer come perforce, but

To thys ende ye shall proue their frēdship to extende.

Obiectiō

Crafty chourlish knaues.

but thei make another reasõ for your destructiõ, and sai thei may not trust, those men long in the counsel nor about their king, nor kepe thẽ in auctorite, that willingly will bee false traitors, to their own country. I foũd two peces of a letter, but the third I could neuer finde, or els I shold haue knowen perfectlye, what bribes had been appointed for euery noble mã, wherin the Erl. of Penbroke was appointed to be gouernour of the kingdõe of Granatha, and to haue fourtie thousande crownes of yerely rẽt: but thei purpose, he shall enioye it but a short time. Do ye thinke my lord of Penbroke, that ye shall haue fourtie thousande crownes from Granatha, and liue safely in England: ye muste goe together with the king or some other, to take such sure possession, that ye shal neuer returne

For I assure you thei dare not geue you so much power more thẽ ye haue and let you liue in your own countri.

Mark I se names & what example I shal destroy you

It is better for your lordship to be Earle of Penbrok stil I cans not tel what sholde be done, but this ye were appointed at the first

If they do not yet moue it to you to goe thether, they wil cut of your head ni England for such profet cā not long come out of Spain The erle of Darby betrewe my lorde Shreusbery lest ye lose your sonne & your aun

bee ye assured ye shall offende their lawes a thousande times, before ye know them, and your head shall perhaps pay for the first. My lord of Darby shal perceiue, that nother he, nor his sonne shal liue long after the kīg is crowned. The Erle of Shreusbery may well perceiue they flatter hym shamefully, when they goe about to destroy the noble lord Talbot. I am sorie that my lord of arundell hath escaped so many treasons as haue bee inuented beefore agaynst him, and shall now be disceaued and destroied amongst vile, treaterous, and moste false flattering Spaniardes. And yet I am sory that the realme should be robbed of so wise, so noble and so manlike a gentell man, as the Lorde matreues his only sonne: do ye thike these thinges wil not come to passe or doe ye beleue, I haue not told you trueth, or truste you to liue styll in your countre: ye vndoubtedlye my lords, they dare not suffer you. The

reason

reason is this, thei say, that nacion & those men, that will woorke treason and be false traitours to, and against their own naturall kynge and countrey, the same men so sone as they be agreued, and beginne to smart, will woorke treasons againste them, and their king: but these thinges may be wrought in their time.

Ye thinke I speake my pleasure, but I assure you most truely I wryte nothinge of suspeccion, nor blinde iudgemente, but those things, which I haue seene and proued perfectlye and that be moste surely pretended and will vndoubtedly be wrought, if ye take no better counsell to withstand them. Marke my lordes if these bee well gotten goodes, that shalbe the destruccion of you, & your countrey for euer: doe ye not encrese your rentes properly, when ye seke the losse of your liues, aud children, without remedy: be not those bribes dere bought that bring with thē the ruine and the subuersion of youre cetors praise for their trueth. Of your sone my lorde of Arundell thys was writ ten or he died, fear the se quel in youre selfe. The Spa niardes wold en ded this or you shold vn derstode it & ther fore now denye it.

Marke what many folde mischiefs the beggerly bribes do bring, if it be not youre dearthes at the end receiue them.

The craftie treasõs be to hard for you to vnderstande, but by Suspecting many thigs. whiche if ye wolde

countrey, the bondage of the lande, the suppression of the cõmen wealth the beggerie of al the quens subiects, the losse of our liberte, the death of our nobilite, the perdicion of al oure rentes, lãds, goods and childrẽ, these thinges I haue found in their letters but doubteles, the kings coũsel haue pretended waighty maters towards you, in deuising how these thynges shalbe brought to passe: these be but rude principles, but in the grounde worke be prudent counsels. I knowe ye wil cal and accompt me a veri fole because I shewe you the trueth plainly, and put my selfe in daunger of hãging to saue your liues, and preserue my countrey from bondage, but foolishly or prudently I speake nothing but that which I knowe perfectly, ye may take my wordes, as it shal please your honors: if ye worke wittelye: as your lourdships cã do, if it plese you I shal reioice at your preseruacion but if ye wil submit your selfe to bẽ

dage

dage willingly, nowe ye knowe the then
daungers that wil folow, what man preserue
liuing would lamēt the miseres that England
shal fal amongest you. Herken there from bon
words after their writings. Thei pur dage I
pose, if their power will serue, not to would
leaue one liuing, that by any maner shew the
title, ought to make claime for the if I han=
succession of the cowne. ged for it

Ye will thinke there could not re= Youre
maine in them suche crueltie: it is in lordships
vaine for me to write trueth, if ye be shall first
leue me not. It is damnable without curse the
remedy, to call God for witnesse in time of
false maters, and what would it pro= these
fit me, to saue your liues, preserue al bribes &
Englande, or wine the whole world false flate
and condemne mine own conscience rye.

But in truth I dare folow the exam So my
ple of S. Paul, and call god for a iuste lord Dar
and true witnes, that I haue hard with bes sōnes
mine eares and sene the same persōs, title to
with mine eies, that haue said, if euer the croun
the king might haue a iust title to the by hys
crown, and obteine it, he wold make wise will

 that cost al iii.
their life

The Ladie Elizabeth condemned.

that most vertuouse Ladi Elizabeths grace sure, for euer comming to inherite the same, or any other of oure cursed nacion: for thei say if thei cold kepe Englande in subiection, thei could doe more with Englande and Flaunders, then all the rest of the kinges kingdoms: therfore thei wyll not worke so foolisshly, as to make dissension betwene these two lands and bring thē in controuersie or sett them at variaunce. But inuente all polices to ioyne them both a like vnder their subiection. I speake of no fooles, but of the wisest sort, and no meane persons, though they knewe not me in such corners, to heare their counsels. Remēber if this warning be not sufficiente, to cause noble men to take hede, that so vertuous a Ladi so beautifull, and so comly a princes, should first of all, besyde all the greate nomber, that shoulde folow afterwardes, be eyther banished the

thei haue promysed to bring ēg lande in subiecciō to Flaunders.

VVhen she muste die trust not ye to

lande

lande, or els putte to death miserabli for that, whiche should be her own righte, by iuste and lawfull discente. If they, that loue women so wel, wil not fauour suche a Ladie, how much lesse wil thei fauoure youre lyues: I speake not this, as some men woulde accuse me, to make sedicion nor treson in the realme: for that were the beste waye for Spaniardes to come to their purpose.

For our enemyes can neuer hurt vs, till we make dissension amongst oure selues: suche a time they looke for, suche a time thei desier, and such a time some noble men haue promysed them. Lette all menne, because I knowe not those traitors names that woulde prepare thys time, endeuour themselues, to lyue, & loue one another charitably and quietly, that ye maye all take one waye and hold together lyke good people, the better to preserue your country, & with

liue lõge after.
Sedicion among your selfs wilbe your destruccion for traitors seke in englisshmens variaunce, to bring in Spayn vpon thẽ.
If ye liue quietly within yourselfs ye preserue your coũtrei agaĩst your enemyes &c.

The Quenes grace disceaued with flaterers

stand al these deceitfull and most detestable treatõs, and premeditate mischises, which be pretended against you and your coũtrie. Ye haue heard many euils, but god is witnes I cannot for shame write nor declare the vile, shamefull, detestable, and more abominable reportes, which they haue spoken by the Quens maiestie: and yet her grace thinketh thẽ to be her very frendes: but this one trueth I will shew couertlie, and wrappe it in as cleane cloutes as I can, desiring all men and the Quenes highnes herself most humblye, to take it after their words. The Spaniards say, if they obtaine not the crown, they may curse the time that euer their kinge was bounde in mariage to a wife, so vnmete for his maiestie by natural curse of yeres, but yet if the thing maye be brought to passe, which was ment, in the mariage in a king, thei shal kepe old riche robes, for high festifi dais. If there be any man that doth not vnderstãde

The Spaniardes reporte of the Quenes maiestie

There wordes arge thei mẽt more then was perfourmed, to speake trueth thei purposed rather to

derstande this saying of Spaniardes, let the Quenes highnes, so lõg as her grace shall haue any fauourable frendship of the kinges maiestie, kepe her selfe as heigh in auctorite & as rich, as she is at this presẽt, or els her grace shall perceiue perfectly, as she maye partly at this present, that Spaniards naturally loue freshe wares, yõg deinties dishes, and chaunge of new thigs. I thinke the Quene will blame me, for showing this one trueth, but by that time her grace shall be glad, to tie horsses vnder neth her chamber windowe, to suffer vile stinking dõg hils at her priuie chamber staires, to see her garde chamber garnished about with plaine wals, finely furnyshed with riche pallets, of stõg corse canuas, wel stuffed with strawe, the wals most comly colored with coles, to see sitting amõg her graces yemẽ, curriers, carmen, and coblers, woode monges, vintners, and waggeners, pointers, pīners, and pedlers, showe makers

wine her cro un then her body.

Marke the most honorable and courte like customes in their courtes here in Flaũders

A misordered hospitall. The chappel chamber made whē strāgers be presente, the garde chamber The kīgs courte much more carterly thēa farmers house in the countrey.

makers surgeaunts, and sadlers, boke binders, bakers, brewers, with al kīde of lowsie loiterers, and euerye one a bagge, a budget, or a bottell hanged open beefore him, tyed vnder hys arme, or behinde vpon his backe, more like a moste misordered hospitall then a kynges garde chāber, that nother her highnes, nor any of her nobilitie, can passe that way. For indede the garde in the kīges courte be suche bawdye, burly beastes, that they neuer come in the kinges chappell, excepte for necessite when straūgers come to the courte and abyde the smell, of suche a stinkinge stue. Her grace will say I speake not all. VVhen her pallice gates shal stand open, without porters, that not only beggers, slaues, and all kinde of wretches, but also oxen, kine, hoggishe olde swinne, shepe and lambs, goats, kiddes, and rammes, cattes, dogges, geese, duckes, cockes, and hennes, with all other suche good houshold

stuffe

stuffe, may enter into her courte, and standing, rubbing, rowteing, diggēg deluing, and donging, before her chā ber windowe, like a good fermers house in the countrey, whē her highnes hall shall be one daye hanged with riche arreisse, and halfe a yeare after, ether shut, and locked vp, or els furnished finely with spinners, silke twiners, weuers of laces, rop makers, coblars, and botchers of olde hosen, moste shamefullie without all order, and be glad to hepe within her most princelike palice a vile stingkingbaudy tauerne, that euerye one of these fore saied craftes men, and all other baudes, beggers, slaues, and vile drōken wretches, maye bie within her courte breade, beare, nuttes, apples, and chese, and fetche wine and water out of the kinges courte, by iiii, penny pintes, and that with the dearest, accordinge to the olde, auncyente, and moste honorable customes of the Emperours maiesties courte, & selfe.

the king is the vylest tauerner of all his court

The kīge selleth wine and water more dearer thē other and hath the lyes hym

the

the kinges maiesties palaies here in flaunders, her maiestie shall wel perceiue, that I kepe many thinges secret whiche I am ashamed to declare. Ye will thinke I speake the worste, but when the Quenes grace shalbe glad to fetche her wine out of the tauern by eight pense, and a halfe peny, the quarte: as the king and borhe the Quenes doe here in this courte, her highnes shall well know, that I cold show much worse orders, and manye thinges more vile, more shamefull, and more dishonorable then these, and by that time all these thinges be wrought ordinarely, in the court of Englande, ye shall smell them more vnsauerly. Al mē that be here cōtiuallye, doe see muche more and many worse thinges, then I write. But if these things wil not make your lord ships worke wiseli and be circūspect in deliuering the crowne, looke further vpon youre proceadinges, and when your lordships shal be glad, if ye

The kigs wine fetched out of the tauerne by the quart but in England freely by Iugges & bottels.

My lord Ambassadour is worthye of blame

ye might eſcape ſo well, to be at the Spaniſhe counſels commaundemēt, and wander with Spaniardes from one countrey to another, and where ye liue at this preſent with all plenti ful prouiſion in your owṅ houſes, be compelled to lie in good tiplinge houſes, & roſt halfe a capōe to your ſupper and kepe the reſt for your di- ner, with a pinte of white wine and water, a piggeſ petitooes, a younge ſhepe trotters, halfe a loine of leane mutton and iiii. or. v grene ſallettes, as the beſt of the kings counſell doe liue daily, ye wil ſay, woulde to god we had kept the crown in our owṅe handes, for the right and lawful hei res of the realme to whom it belon- geth by iuſt and lawfull diſcent, and bene tre we to our countrye, ſo that we might haue reigned ſtill, and ly- ued more honorable, in reſte, wealth and quietnes, then any nacion in the world. The Spaniards ſay your lord ſhips moſt ſpecially, and al the reſt of our

if more then this be not written, for he ſhould ſe the Quene, be not diſ ceaued herin. Thus ye ſhal liue when ye be in bon dage. Tak hede ye ſai not hereafter would to god we had done it, for now ye may doit

our nobilite, with the moste parte of our counsel, be without knowledge, learning, language or perfect experience, and therfore thei hope though not spedely, yet in proces of tyme to disceaue and ouer cõe you, with their learning, wisdome, craft, and policy. Let your children therfore, if ye loue them, be brought vp in learninge, & wisedome, that they maye be able to gouerne the realme prudently, after your dayes. And solowe youre lordships, for the preseruacion of youre lyues, honor and children, this worthy and notable example of the moste worthy king Codrus, who seing his countrey assauted, by the moste cruell tiranny of his enemies, sought by all meanes possible to deliuer his people from bondage, with least destruccion of his subiectes bloud: and being answered that there was no way to preserue his realme, except he himselfe should be slaine, appareled hys moste princelike person in a poore palmers wede, and after great lamentacion of

I desir ye shold folow your own preseruacion

his ſubiectes, whiche woulde rather haue loſt life, lāds & goods, then ſuffer ſo noble a king to die for their deliueraunce, became a tourneſpitte in his enemies kitchen, and when hys aduerſarie had prepared a great armi for the inuaſion of his coūtre, he prouoked with cruell woordes, remembring the commen and publike weal of his ſubiectes, which he deſired ſo earneſtly, his enemies ſo much, that a ſkuruye kitchen ſlaue without mercye thruſte him to the harte, wyth a hote ſpitte of yrone. who, beyng ſtripped naked to be buried, was knowen perfectly to be the king himſelf by a croſſe vnderneth his breſt: whoſe death ſo muche diſcoraged his enemies, that thei flyeng before his ſubiectes, when the battell ſhoulde bee fought, were ſlayne and taken in the chaſe, his countrey preſerued, & hys maieſtie obteined immortal fame.

The king a turne ſpitte.

Ifpanīs ſo muche lo ued their coūtrey, ſ old we Chriſtiās betraie ours

I wold wiſh your lordſhips, for your honors & the preſeruacion of youre lyues and countreye, as I truſte aſſu-

Kepe the state that ye haue.

redly ye will, though not so daungerously, as this noble Prince did, yet with suertie obserue thys counsell: I meane ye are in such e estate, at thys present that ye maye withoute the daunger, or losse of any mãs life, kepe the crown & the realme quietli, but if ye will deliuer the crown oute of your handes willingly, then wher ye ought to venter, ye to lose in dede life, landes, goods and rentes, with honor for the preseruacion of your coũtrey: ye shal not only lose life, lãdes, goods, wife and children, but also all honour, fame and renowme, with the moste noble, and the moste mightie kingdome, as Spaniardes say, on the whole earth, with the losse of innumerable thousandes of Christen mẽs liues. For what nacion in the world is able to suffer the verye nature of Spaniardes: haue I not shewed you many things which ye cannot suffer: ye may expell nature for a tyme, as Spaniardes did in Englande lately, but

Spaniardes report Englande to be the strongest and beste kingdom on the earth.

but al the world can not expell her so much, but she returneth in short space. what deuelish she nature is this, that no man can suffer: the time is shorte, or els I wold tel you much more: their pride is of such nature, that she can suffer no man, to be fe low with her Pride would euer be the highest, and then who hath more pride then Spaniardes, who canne beare rule aboue thē. The Spaniardes denie not them selues to be the proudest and moste lecherous men liuing, and can they then be without all other vices, seeing pride is the roote of al sinne, and the mother of all mischiefe. Their hartes wil boile and borst, to see a ny nacion nere about them prosper in welth and tranquilite. I heare saye there be certeine bokes amongst you whiche in dede I neuer sawe, as the lamentacion of Naples: the mourninge of Millane, and suche other, which haue showed you the tiranny that Spaniardes haue vsed in other

The nature of Spani.

Doubtles I know no man can set forth more mysery, then the people be in Naples and if ye go forth, ye shal come to the lyke.

F.i. countries,

countries, and in those points I wold coũsel you to beleue the same bokes and take hede ye come not in like bõdage. For if ye do, be assured that the same tiranny, which thei haue vsed in other countries, thei will vndoubtedly vse amongst you: for if thei fauored not those noble men, whiche thei say be Christned, how much les wil they fauour you, whom thei accoumpt worse then Iewes: but like as thei haue destroied the nobilitie in other countryes, euen so will they according to their pretensed purposes destroie and murther you priuely one after another, so soone as they may beare rule amongest you. Some Spaniardes say we must not take example by those countres, which they be compelled to keepe perforce: but be you assured thei must bee compelled within one yere, to keepe England perforce also. For doubtelesse English men will neuer pay such excises willingly, as other nacions be compelled

But if ye wil not take warning of them which do shew you then shal you suffer al the plages that be named in this boke for youre increduli tie.

compelled to pay agaīst their wil:
nor let their rentes be raised so much
aboue the rate whiche thei bee at in
these daies, as Spaniardes woulde a
mount thē. Ye wil say the Spaniards Obiectiō
kepe their olde rentaking: how can
that be, when euery poore man must Marke ye
pay yerely for euery chimney in his people of
house, and euery other place that is to England
make fire in, as ouen, fornes and smi howe ye
thes forge, a frenche crowne: wil eng muste be
lishmen, or can thei suffer to be poled taxed
and pilled moste miserably, in payēg
continually suche poling pence, and
intollerable tollages for all maner
graine and breade, bese, beare, and
mutton, goose, pigge and capone,
henne, mallard and chicken, milk, but
ter and chese, egges, apples & peares,
wine white and reade, with all other
wines beside, salt white and graye, al Note
thinges must pay, small nuttes, and thys.
wall nuttes, cheries, and chest nuttes,
plumbes, damassens, philbeardes and
al both gret & smal whatsoeuer thei
maye se to sede the pore cōmenalte,

If ye can suffer this then crown the king of Ieruſalem.

The third part of al thinges: kepe your ſelues frō that bondage.

Marke this yo men and huſbande mē, kepe your liberte, that ye pay not for your own chic

Salmon and herring, this is a ſhame full thing: tenche, eele or conger, this ſhall kepe vs vnder, and make vs die for hunger, flounders, floucke, plaice or carpe, here is a miſerable warke, that Englande muſt abide to maintaine Spaniſhe pride: ye paye youre tenthes for all theſe thinges, but I ſpeake not of churche rentes, nor baliſes fees, for that is but the tenthe part, but this ſhall greue your harte, to pay the thirde part more, that burthen waieth ſorer then fines or rēts, tak hede therfore. Ye wil thinke their cōmēs be not ſo oppreſt: there is not a yeman, farmer nor huſbande man in theſe partes, that dare eate a capōe in his own houſe if his frende come to viſet him, but the capōe muſt coſt him a noble, if it wer worth .xx. pēce and euen ſo of hennes, pigges, geeſe, chickins, and all other thynges. Dooe ye thinke to make prouiſes for all theſe miſchefes, which I haue rehearſed: the beſt prouiſo ye can deuiſe to

make

make is, that for the auoiding of all these and innumerable moe mischefs ye kepe the crowne in youre owne handes, and geue it to no forreyne prince. For when the king is crowned, who dare withstand his doings doe not the lawes of Englande bind al men to obeie him: but seing thei vnderstande not our lawe, maye not the kinge chaunge it, as shall seeme good for him, by the aduise of his coũsel: I nede not to feare the daunger of my boke, for I heare say, I shalbe outlawed, with a pension writte, for. iii yeres pension, in cliffords inne. Do it spedely, least it take none effecte: for if Spaniardes beare rule fare wel all Englishe lawes, the kig will teach you Spanish lawes, and looke what lawes Spaniardes make is not he a traitor that speaketh to the contrary but til his grace be crouned, it is mete for all trewe men, to holde with the right, and speake against his coronacio. Ye say, the quenes highnes hath

kens whe ye bee sicke. If ye follow this counsel, ye saue your lyues, your landes & contrey. And will with spede. For all your learning is lost, your lawde-stroyed & al your liuinges decayed for euer. the office of trewe men.

Obiectiõ

al power in her hande: we muſt obey her ſurely in actes that bee paſte by parliament and cõfirmed by the hole realme, we ought to obey her highnes during her life: but I think there is no law confirmed and paſt, where by the Quene may lawfully diſinherite the realme of the crown. And for that which is to come, euery man mai lawfully ſpeake against it: for ſhe can make no ſuch law without your aide.

Eraſmus.

Yf ye read the enchiridiõ of Eraſmus in the leafe, lxxv. ye ſhall finde that the Quenes highnes or any other Prince, that wil folowe goddes commaundement and ſeke the kingdom of heauen, ought not to make any laxes or ſtatutes agaynſte the commen wealth of her countr, and that ſhe ought not to doe that, which ſhe may by her power, but that which ſhe maye doe iuſtlye by the lawes of the realme. For lyke as Cyriſte was not borne for himſelfe, nor died not for himſelfe, but was borne to fulfil the law

VVhat the quene oughte to doe.

A trewe example

law, liued to teache vs the perfecte trueth of the law, and died to redeme al those that woulde folow his steps and kepe his commaundementes: euē so the Quene ought not to do that thing which is for her own profet, her own pleasure or her own pryuat commodite but that which is for the commodite of the whole countrey, the profite of her poore people, and the strength, aide, preseruacion, and the comfort of the whole realme. Her grace ought not to gouerne vs if she wil folowe Christe, but to se vs gouerned vprightly in all spiritu all maters after gods worde, and in all temporall maters accordinge to the lawes of the realme iustlye, for oure preseruacion

How the Quene ought to gouerne vs

In the .iiii. nexte leaues folowynge ye shall finde the offyce of a kynge, a magistrate, an officer and bishoppe. I shewe you the place because ye shoulde remember it

and folowe it in this caſe. But if the Quenes grace wil not ſeke to winne heauen, with folowing Chriſte and keping his order, for the commodite and profet of all her people, then ſhe muſt without grace, in breakeynge Chriſts order, and leauing his ſteps, without any ſeconde way folow the ſteps of the deuill, and ſo ſeking her owne priuat commodite, her owne wil & her own pleaſure, rūne ſtraight headlong to hell. Mary if the Quene be the laſt heire, ſo that the crown remaine wholly, perfectly and lawfully in her, without any other diſcente, ſhe may by gods lawe geue it for the commen wealth of her ſubiects and the realme, where or to whom ſoeuer pleaſeth her, and then if it be for the commen wealth of the realme, as ye ſe plainly it is not, ſhe mai geue it to her graces huſbande the kinge: but if it belong to the heires of the realme, after her death, and if ther be any heires in Englande liuing after her,

her, to whom the crown oughte to come by iuste and lawefull descente, she, and all that geue her such cursed counsell, doe committe deadlye and damnable sinne, in taking, and geuīg it, from them wrongfully. Y fye could restore it againe after wardes, and so make them recompence, she myghte haue pardon of god: but I am sure the Quenes grace, and all her honorable counsell, haue seene the kinges style where he writeth himselfe kinge of xxviii kingdomes, with Englande, Fraunce, and Yrelande, and there ye perceue, that he leaueth out the quen in all his writinges and deades, what soeuer he maketh or confirmth. And in the first leafe and first side of the patten, or rather the Emperours will which he hath made, to establishe the king iointly with him in the Empir, they write that the kinge wōne englande by the Quenes mariage, and vpon the seconde side of the sāe first leafe they write, that the king at this present,

Mi lords for suche counsell ye shalbe more hardly plaged in hel then ye cā be in the towre. See what they take vpon thē or this. Geue a Spa. one inch, and he wil take a hūdreth fote.

preſét hath autorite to make, chaũge, ordeine and conſtitute, what decres, ſtatutes, ordinaũces or lawes ſoeuer pleaſe him in the ſame kingdom of England. Seeing the king, hauynge but the name geuen him, doeth take vpon him ſuche power, and beefore he hath the crowne dooeth expulſe the Queene from all title of the realme or the crown: ye may be ſure that when he hath the crown, he wil take from her all power and honor, ſauing only ſhe may haue the name to be his wife vvith his more beloued harlots: ſo that ſhe ſhall neuer be able to reſtore the crovvn to the right heires. I haue ſent you the copy of the ſãe will, becauſe ye may know perfectly, that ſhe ſhall neuer bee able to reſtore the crown again to the right heires Then ſeing the Quene, and all your lordſhips, doe knowe aſſuredly beefore hand, that ſhe ſhal neuer be able to make recompence in reſtoringe the crowne againe to the right

She ſhall be at low eſtate in ſhort tie.

Beware of this, it were better for your lordſhips to loſe your heades & die in the

right heires, and yet will preſume to doe ſuche wrong, as vnlawfullye to take it from thē: ye muſt nedes graūt and beleue it truely, that not onelye the Quene but alſo your lordeſhips, if ye reſiſt not this wickednes, and al other that help her, or geue her ſuch curſed counſell, may be ſure for ſuch deuiliſhe preſumpcion to goe to the deuil and be damned withoute mercye.

trueth, then damne your ſols in preſūption.

For Chriſt hath iudged youre doinges before hande, ſaying: whoſoeuer ſinneth againſte the ſpirite ſhall neuer be forgeuen in this world nor in the world to cōe. Do ye not know my lordes, that ther was neuer traitor againſt king or Quene, that colde lōg proſper: & wil your lordſhips ſek the deſtructiō of the quēe & the hole realme & think to lyue proſperouſly after wards: wil ye be falſe traitors to the Quene & al your own cōtrey & think to be put in truſt, & made mē of great power in ſtraunge contries:

Ye dyſceaue the Quene when ye cauſe her to loſe her huſbande and her power alſo. Ye are diſceaued

There

There is no man at this present, that thinketh any treason to remaine in a mi of the quēs most honorable coūsel but surely if ye crown king Philippe though ye could doe it by a iust law, or if ye receue him in with disceitfulnes, guile, aide, fraude or subtiltie, to destroie the lande: vndoubtedlye all the world will accoumpt you rancke traitors, and the very Spaniardes thē selues durst neuer reste in quietnesse, till it were rewarded accordingli. Wil ye crowne the king to make him liue chast with his wife contrary to his nature: peraduenture his maiestie after he were crowned would be content with one woman, but in this meane time his grace wil euery night, haue v. or vi. to see whiche of them pleaseth him best. If thei wer ladies or gētle wemen, it were more tolerable, but bakers daughters and such other poore whores, is to abominable. In Antwerp before shroftide, ther wer as there be many at this present, certeine

Mark this parte of their nature.

So wil the great Turke.

Poore bakers daughters of brussels.

A farmers acte of the kinges maiestie in Antwerpe.

reine merchauntes, which had verye faire wiues, whom the king cold not haue priuely.

But hearyng by chaunce of ſpyes, that ſome of the ſame wiues wer vpon a nigh with their neyghbours wife, to helpe her in her trauel or laboure of childe, the kinge with certaine other wente maſking the ther in womans apparell: and the kinges maieſtie, as all Spaniardes reported for a greate honore, helde the wiues backe, till ſhe had brought forth her childe.

But what was wrought amongeſt the midd wiues afterwardes, lette other men iudge: for I had not knowē this, but that all Spaniards, bragged of it themſelues, that we mighte reioyce to haue for our king in Englād ſuche a ſtowte, bolde and myghtye prince, as durſt maſke amōg wemen and plaie the midwife, at midnight. I could not for ſhame write this, but that I thinke the Quenes highneſſe, hath

VVhere the king is ſo vicious, the people muſt nedes be muche worſe.

They bragge more of this, then of all the warres that euer their king made.

The kigs maieſtie a merī mid wife at midde nighte.

The Byshop of Castyll.

hath heard tel how sharpeli the good bisshoppe of Castila was checked, because he desired the king to kepe him selfe for his wife, and told him it was not lawful for him to liue in such loth soe lechery. The notable sermõ, that this good bisshoppe made though he lost his rochet for speaking agaynste lechery and such other vices, is talked of so much throughout al these parties, that I am sure this tale cãnot be hidden. I write his name, because the Quenes highnes is bounde to geue him thankes and reward him wyth another bisshoprick, that would put himselfe in such daunger of trouble to cause the king her graces husband to loue her. But know ye their reportes: they saye the good bakers daughter is more worth in her goun then Quene Mary without her croũ. God witnesseth with me, that it greueth my hart sore, to heare such vile reportes and so vnlike similitudes. They say olde wiues muste be cherished

They esteme the crowne aboue the quen

Vnlyke similitudes.

Some good Lady shew

ſhed for their yong riche giſtes. For old wiues, ſay they, for faire wordes and a litle craftie cuckering wil geue al that they haue: but how they be vſed afterwardes let the Quenes Ladies and gentill wemen diſcuſſe. If the king do ſo much eſteme his wife in theſe dayes, when he ſeketh to obtaine by her honor and great commodite: after what ſorte will he vſe her highneſſe, when he hath obtained his purpoſe: doth the Quenes grace thik to cauſe the kynges maieſtie ſtill to remaine in Englande, with geuynge him the crown: No I aſſure you plainly: and perfectlye the counſell of Spaines purpoſe is to eſtablyſhe other matters: they haue determyned and agreed amonge themſelues to appoynte a viceroye with a greate armye of dronken douche men, with diuers other ſouldiers. And that the lord Paget knoweth by the falſe flatteryng words, whych I heard the Emperour,

oure Quene thys trueth, that her grace be not brought into mor miſerye. Paget ſhould brought in douch men and ben vice roy if vp rors cold ben mo ued by the wrõges that the Quẽ attẽpted laſt yeare

per our ſpeake before him, to the kig the xv. day of Aprill, biddinge the king, make much of that man, for he was worthy to be cherished, promiſing to make him the greateſt man in Englande, to kepe vs in ſubiecciō, as I haue tolde you before, and lette the Quens highnes liue at her bedes, like a good auncient Ladie. Ye ſe the further I goe, and the more I write, the greater euils I find, but I promes you aſſuredlye, if I ſhoulde write ſo muche of their viciouſnes, as I know moſt perfectly, the ladies and gentell women woulde be muche aſhamed. VVoulde to god the honorable ladies of Englande knewe the vile reportes, which Spaniardes haue reported by them: for then I aſſure you the good Ladies would not loue to kiſſe ſo pleaſauntlye, and ſo many times, with ſtraungers, nor to receue and ſende into Flaunders ſo many milke mouthed meſſengers, and moſte vntrewe taletellers, nor receue & ſend ſo

The Quene ſhalbe a Nunne whē the king is crowned And euē ſo ſhal ye doe if ye write as long as ye lyue.

so many tokens, with so louing and humble cõmendacions to their most louing, or rather most dissemblynge Spaniardes, in whom lyeth all their loue, all their hope, all their trust and confidence. Oh moste abominable whores: for I speake of no good Ladies: were ye borne in Englande, do ye liue in Englande, haue Englishmẽ kept you all this long tyme, doe Englishe men put all their trust in youre honesty because ye shoulde be Spaniards whores and leauing your owne naturall husbandes and frendes putte all your trust, all your loue, whiche is very littell to those whom ye ought to loue, al your hope, al your comfort in vile pockie Spaniards: If I beyng an englishe man shoulde haue so lytle honesty, and tell so many of your names openlye, as I haue heard Spaniardes name to bee their whores, many of you would lose your frẽds, many be banished the courte, many be deuorced from their husbands, &

Pockye Spani. Ye wold be offended to be openly named for whores & yet ye loue Spa which name you openly so

sent to their moſt truſty and moſte louing Spaniardes. I would name diuerſe of you, which within theſe few dayes haue ſent your meſſengers, whō I could alſo ſhowe, and tokens to ſpaniardes in Flaunders, like arrante whores: but I wil fauoure you at thys preſent & kepe the counſels, which nother Spaniardes nor youre owne meſſengers wil hide nor keepe cloſe, becauſe I truſt ye wil amende and be honeſt wemē hereafter now ye haue warning of their vilnes. Or els do ye not knowe right honorable Ladies, for now I leaue all whores, that the maner of ſpayne is, if one man kiſſe a nother mans wife or daughter it ſhal bee lawfull for her huſbande or father to kil him: or doe ye not knowe that there bee no wemen in Spaine but commen whores, that will kiſſe any man excepte their huſbandes: this hath cauſed Spain. to reporte in euery place that they may for a ſmal porcion of golde or a precious ſtone haue

Amende good Ladyes or els.

The maner of Spaniſhe wemen. This is greate diſhonor for youre Luſbāds, ſhame for youre ſelues &

haue the beſt mās wife in our realme whiche reporte hath ſprede ſo farre, that the yonkers of Spain do write, as god is witnes that I haue ſeē their letters to peuiſh boies, that the princockes be ſo familierli receiued with Ladies of Englande, that they haue no minde on Spaniſhe wenches: for the Spaniards ſay and it is ſo in dede in their countrey: a great ſlaunder for youre countrey

Oſcula qui ſumpſit ſi non et cetera ſūpſit, hec quoque, que data ſūt, perdere dignus erat: he, whiche hath obtained kiſſes, ſay they, if he winne nothinge els, is worthy to looſe that which was geuē him. For in Spain he that canne gette a kiſſe ſhall haue all other thinges: ye wotte what I meane: and they think the ſame trew in England alſo. Peraduenture ſome will be offended becauſe I ſpeake ſo plaine. GOD is my witneſſe I cannot for very ſhāe name ſuch, as I cold & haue heard Spaniards name with But take hede with this warning, or els ye wil ſhortly be named and ſhamed.

ſhame enough, nor ſhowe you halfe the vile reportes whiche they accordig to their nature haue made of you I write not this, becauſe I think they haue obteined ſo much of the noble Ladies of Englande with kiſſes, as they maye doe of Spaniſhe whores, nor beecauſe I thinke their reportes trewe: for vndoubtedly I know their woordes to bee a thouſande partes worſſe then their dedes: but becauſe the good and honorable Ladyes of Englande knowinge their vile reportes may vſe thẽſelues more ſtraũgely towardes Spaniardes at theyr next returne.

So that they maye knowe perfectlye, that all noble mens wiues and daughters with other Ladyes, & gentill wemen, that by the curteſi of Englande wil receiue their frende with a kiſſe, be not commen whores for euery pockye Spaniarde. And ſurelye I would wiſhe you to leaue that curteſye, ſpecially among Spaniardes.

I geue you this counsell because I de
sire your honors and your husbands
also, ye maye take my woordes as it
pleaseth you. The noble Citie of Lon London
don hath wonne more honor for pu
nishing whores thē for any other se
uerall acte: and yet Spaniardes saye
that all their diligent watches not
withstanding ther be more mōgrels Mōgrels
borne within this ii. yeres in London
then Englishmens children. I speake
not this because I think it so in dede:
for I tolde you their woordes were
worsse then their doinges, but bee-
cause that moste noble Citie maye
continew in their most verteouse pu It is the
nishing of vice, remembringe what cheefest
vilenes they woulde haue reported vertue
if they myghte haue had liberte. to punish
I woulde wryte many other thinges vice.
that appertayne to theyr nature,
how swinishe they vse thēselues at
their table, tearing their meate lyke
dogges, drinking like horses, hangig
their heades ouer their dissches that

one parte beeinge ſlauored in their mouthes may fall into the cõmẽ diſh afterwardes, ſmacking like hogges, howe vilie they vſe themſelues in their chambers & c. but beecauſe the time is ſhorte and many Englyſhmẽ knowe theſe things, I will here make an ende, moſte humblye beſechinge your honorable lordeſhippes to pardon my doinges, if I haue withoute knowledge written any thyng contrary to your expectacion becauſe I may doe it of ignoraunce: but be you aſſured my whole deſier is, to ſeeke the maintenaunce of youre honore, and in declaring ſuche thinges, as be pretended againſte oure countrey, to ſeeke the preſeruacion of the whole realme. I ſhall therfore deſier al noble men, worſhipful men, yomen of the Quenes garde and all other officers of her highnes moſt honorable court that they and euery one of them wyl exhort the people in euery coaſt and part of the realme to liue in tranquil

My deſier in writig this letter

lite

lite, peace and concorde by this familiar example of Esopes husbande mā. VVho hauinge many sonnes, that despicing their fathers admonicions liued continually in debate and strif, studied to plante amongeste them loue, vnite, concorde & peace. Hys sonnes vpon a tyme beeing at home in his own house, he commaunded his seruaunt to bring before hym a burthen of roddes, such as husbandes vse for their plowes and other busynes, & commaunded his sonnes, the bundell being fast bounde together, to breake the same roddes wholly togethers.

But when their strength fayled, the good man bade hys seruaunt vntie the said burthen, and the roddes beeing losed, he commaunded euerie one of his sonnes to break one wād: which thing when they had dō with ease, the good olde father sayed, after this sorte shall it be amōgst you my children: if ye perseuer together in

Note

one louing minde perfectly, your enemies shal neuer ouercome you. But if ye will disseuer youre selues one from another, this your deuilishe discorde and variaunce shal make you an apte praye for your enemies: euen so I say vnto you most deare beloued brethren, that like as a castel builded in the middes of a stronge rocke can neuer bee wonne til discorde fall among the captaynes and souldyers, so that one parte treaterously suffer their enmies to enter in at the gats: so likewise Englande is strongly cõpassed with strong rockes, which no artilery can pearse, and so long as englyshe men lyke good faithfull souldiers wil louingly and faythfully agre together, and euery man from the highest degree to the lowest seke to maintaine the weale publike of hys natiue country and the state of the realme, al the worlde can neuer ouercum vs: but if the noble men or one part of the commens wil aide & like

Kepe this order and ye shal saue your countrey

false

falſe traitors receaue in our enemies, or if ſedicio, treaſon, rebellion, inſurrections and ſuch like miſchiefes fall amongſt vs and be wrought within our ſelues, our enemyes ſhall come in reioycing at our moſt deuiliſhe diſcorde, and deſtroye the realme, and bring all Englyſhe men to ſuch perpetuall bondage and ſlauerye as I haue here before declared. Yea thoſe that be their greateſt frendes & firſt bringers into the lande are appointed to dye the moſte ſhamefull death ſo farre as I perceiue: there is pryuye treaſon working againſt you at this preſent, whiche will be brought to paſſe ſpedely, take wiſe counſel, man all your hauens ſtrongly, leaſt youre enemyes come vpon you ſodenlye. I am ſory that I gaue the lorde Page warning what treaſon is pretended againſt him: for I think ambicion ſo much blindeth his eies, that he hath no better grace but to goe about as many fleminges reporte, to conduct a greate

Be ſure to flye theſe miſchiefes or els ye worke your owne deſtruction.

All you haue ben diſceaued by the flattering of Spa. take hede with this warning Yet thoughe your lordſhip wer not perfect beefore take

hede at the last. I desire your safe garde. Thys should been dõe if the Quene coulde haue moued sedicion by her quarels last yeare to the gentel men.

a great nõber of high Almaines priuely into Englande amongest you to destroie your corne and destroye the realme or els to take the Lord graie, the lord Depute of callis & the hold with all, whiche we haue here seene. Sodenlye suffer not youre enemyes to enter into the lande, as ye did the Danes in times past, in hope to driue them out after suche like sort. For I assure you the Spaniardes can & wil prouide more politike wayes to suppresse the countrey and kepe vs in subiection, then euer the Danes dyd in times past. I shal therefore exhort you, and in the name of our sauioure Christe require you, to flie all maner thinges that may be like to make discord, debate, stryfe, sedicion, commocions, treasons, rebellions or such like mischiefes amongeste you

And speciallye leaue those mosse deuilishe names of Papystes, heretikes, Lutherans, protestauntes and

suche

suche like, accordyng to the Quenes moste gracyous proclamacion, loyne youre selues to gether wyth loue & amite, reioysinge to take vpon you the moste blessed name of oure saui- oure Iesus CHRISTE, the GOD of equitee, peace, loue and tranquilli te, and to bee called Christians: knit your selues together in perfect cha- rite, loue together lyke Christen bre thren, remembryng we haue al one father whyche is in heauen, & that we bee all redemed wyth one raū- some, euen the shedynge of the moste precyous bloud of oure sauy oure Iesus CHRISTE: whose commaundementes if we wyll en- deuore oure selues to keepe for the vttermoste of oure power, and if we will take vpon vs hys moste myghtye name, he wyll vndoubted lye defende vs wyth hys moste myghtye arme, so that we shalbe a- ble to withstād our enemies & liue in our countrei quietly in peace, loue and

VVe haue al one fa- ther, which is in heauē, then we ought to loue to- gether like bre- thren.

and tranquillite, like as the children of god and louing brethren in our saiour Iesus christ: to whom with the father and the holye goste iii. persons and one liuing god, which was without beginning, be all honore and glorye worlde withoute ende. Amen.

Your lordships obedient, trew and faithfull seruaunte Iohãnes bradfordus.

Once agayne beware of had I wiste.

5 maij 1549

One [illegible] dyuers mens [illegible]
[illegible] for [illegible] onely
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

¶ A tragicall

blaſt of the Papiſticall trompette for maintenaunce of the Popes kingdome in Englande.

NOw fil the cup & make good chere,
NThis goldē chaines muſt neds obei:
Englād is ours both farre & nere,
No king ſhall reigne if we ſay nay.
Now all ſhauen crownes to the ſtāderd,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniard.

Spare nother man, woman or childe,
Hange and hed thē, burne thē with fier:
VVhat if Chriſt wer both meke & mild
Satan our lord wil geue vs hier.
Now al ſhauen crounes to the ſtanderd,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniard.

Pope innocent our father old,
VVhen Peters keis cold doe no good:
He curſed them a thouſande folde,
And drowned them in Tibers floud.

Nowe

Now al shauen crownes to the standerd,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniard.

He said we must pauls swerde now take,
Splay the banner, strike vp the droome,
Fall to aray, pike and halse hake,
Play now the men, the time is come.
Now al shauen crownes to the standerd,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniarde.

Our golden hatte we must defende,
Though Christ say nay, we wil it haue,
And it maintaine vnto the ende,
Al kinges to vs be bonde and slaue.
Now al shauen crownes to the standerd,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniard.

The Pope our father hath al rule,
The deuil to him wil neuer say nay,
But maketh him richly to ride on mule,
In worldly pompe which may not decai.
Now al shauen crownes to the standerd,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniard.

The Spaniards hath sworne vs to defēd,
So that we betraye Englande to them:
Make hauock now the people to spend,

As

As Herode did once in Bethleem.
Now al shauen crownes to the standerd,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniard.

Doe you not see this Englishe in feare:
Their hart is driuen into their hose.
xiii. be burned of late together:
Thei durst not snuffe ōce with their nose
Now al shauen crownes to the stāderd,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniard.

Hey courage, courage, my felowes al,
The gettīg ship must bere a proud saile,
If we draw backe our kingdom wil fal,
If we be stoute nothing shal vs faile
Now al shauen crownes to the stādard,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniard.

Lay shame aside, let honesty go,
Braue out al matters be they vntrew:
Say trew men be traitors & the Qu. foe,
Banish al trueth and falshode renewe.
Now al shauen crownes to the standerd,
Make rome pul down for the Spaniard.

Our iust must we haue, who can sai nay.
This god once said to our father Caine,

The world is our reigne & worldli ſtaie,
VVe ſhal not decaye but alwais remaie.
Now al ſhauen crownes to the ſtanderd,
Make rome, pul down for the Spaniard.

The authour to Englande his naturall countreye.

England repent whiles thou haſt ſpace,
If thou couldeſt repent as Niniuie did,
Then ſholdeſt thou be ſure of gods grace
And ſo might thy enemies quite be rid.
But if thou be blinde and wilt not ſee,
Thē haſteth deſtructiō for to deſtroi the.

FINIS.